

REMARKS

Claims 1-10, 13-18, 21-23, and 31-45 remain pending.

Applicants gratefully acknowledge the allowance of claims 31-41.

5 The Examiner has indicated that claims 5 and 21 would be allowable if rewritten to include any base and intervening claim limitations. Accordingly, the limitations of claim 5 have been incorporated into claim 1, and the limitations of claim 21 have been incorporated into claim 13. Claims 1 and 13 are therefore now in condition for allowance. Claims 5 and 21 are retained with a further limitation from the specification, and no new matter is added.

10 Applicants do not agree with Examiner Isabella's and now Examiner Walker's determination in regard to claims 1 and 13, and their dependents, and reserve the right to refile these claims in a subsequent application.

The dependency issues with regard to claims 43 and 45 have been fixed above.

15 In conclusion, the foregoing amendments and remarks are believed to place claims 1-10, 13-18, 21-23, and 31-45 into condition for allowance. If there is any further hindrance to allowance, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,

20 Date: June 13, 2008

/Guy Cumberbatch, Reg. No. 36,114/
Guy Cumberbatch, Reg. No. 36,114
(805) 201-3006
c/o Rajiv Yadav, Ph.D., Esq., Reg. No. 43,999
Edwards Lifesciences
Law Department
One Edwards Way
Irvine, California 92614
Telephone: (949) 250-6801
Facsimile: (949) 250-6850
Customer No. 30452

25

30